

**AGBIS** / LEADERS IN GOVERNANCE

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GUIDE**

25  
26



# WELCOME

---

## **Welcome to the AGBIS Professional Development Programme 2025–2026**

We are delighted to present our refreshed and expanded programme of courses and events for the 2025–2026 academic year. Developed in direct response to the evolving needs of our members, this year's offering provides a comprehensive range of professional development, networking opportunities and expert-led knowledge sharing - designed to support governors and governance professionals at every stage of their journey.

We understand that cost and time are key considerations for all schools and governing bodies. That's why we've worked hard to keep training costs low and maximise the number of events included at no additional charge within your membership. We're also increasing our e-learning provision, with revamped versions of our popular New Governors and Safeguarding courses, plus exciting new modules to follow - giving you greater flexibility to learn at your convenience.

A major highlight this year is the launch of the Governance Professionals' Programme (GPP). Starting in autumn 2025, this structured development programme is tailored specifically for Clerks, offering three progressive levels - Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced - each running over six months.

We're also thrilled to announce that our Annual Conference will take place on 19 March 2026 at the QEII Centre, London. Expect a superb line-up of speakers, engaging breakout sessions and the chance to connect with peers from across the sector.

We look forward to supporting you through another year of impactful, relevant and accessible professional development.

### **Ginny Parkes**

AGBIS Director of Learning  
and Professional Development



# HOW AGILE IS YOUR GOVERNANCE?

---

Whether you're seeking subject-specific content or broader sector updates, our programme offers a wide range of options to meet your needs. From flexible, affordable training to tailored sessions that fit around your schedule, we have something for every stage of your governance journey.



## Webinars and Seminars

We offer a full range of professional development opportunities, from short webinars - some included in your membership - to longer in-person events held at locations across the country.



## Bespoke Training for Governing Bodies

Inviting one of AGBIS's highly experienced trainers to your school (either in-person or virtually) offers an easy and cost-effective way to fulfil all your governors' training requirements.



## e-learning courses

Learn at your own pace, in your own time and at your own convenience. We provide e-learning courses which are free for governors of our member schools: Safeguarding and New Governors introduction.



## Governance Professionals' Programme (GPP)

New for 2025-2026, the GPP is a structured and accredited professional development programme designed to support governance professionals at all stages of their careers.



## Annual Conference 19 March 2026

Our flagship annual event in London offers expert speakers and sector updates; a collaborative day of networking and strategic planning where all are welcome.

# EVENTS FOR...

# CLERKS

---

Clerks are essential to effective governance. At AGBIS, we offer tailored guidance and professional development to support Clerks in their vital roles and new for 2025 will be the launch of our accredited Governance Professionals' Development Programme for Clerks, to strengthen their personal development and practice.



## CLERKS' NETWORKING GROUP

A relaxed, online meet-up for Clerks to stay connected, share experiences, and build your network. Submit questions or topics in advance - your input shapes the conversation!

- 23 September 2025
- 4 February 2026
- 3 June 2026



## INCLUSIVE GOVERNOR RECRUITMENT

Watch out for more events aimed at Clerks such as this webinar on Inclusive Governor Recruitment - 23 April 2026 at 10am



## AGBIS BRIEFINGS

Included in your membership, these briefings provide regular sector updates :

- 15 September 2025
- 3 November 2025
- 9 February 2026
- 18 May 2026
- 15 June 2026

Find out  
more ►

# GOVERNANCE PROFESSIONALS' PROGRAMME (GPP)

AGBIS is proud to introduce the Governance Professionals' Programme (GPP), a structured and accredited professional development pathway designed specifically for Clerks. Launching in autumn 2025, the GPP supports governance professionals at all stages of their careers through three progressive levels: Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced.

## FOUNDATION

---

Specifically crafted for Clerks at the start of their career, this course builds a solid foundation in governance essentials - from legal frameworks to effective meeting management - while developing key relationships and practical skills.

## INTERMEDIATE

---

Designed for Clerks with 18 months to 4 years experience who are ready to deepen their understanding and enhance their strategic capabilities. This course develops key skills such as advising boards, preparing for inspections, managing complex issues and strengthening stakeholder relationships.

## ADVANCED

---

Aimed at experienced governance professionals seeking to excel as strategic advisors and governance leaders. This course will delve into high-level governance strategy, crisis management and innovative practices for supporting boards in a rapidly evolving educational landscape.

# NEW

Join the pilot cohorts of our new accredited programme in 2025-2026 at a discounted rate...

---

**AGBIS** / LEADERS IN  
GOVERNANCE

Find out  
more ►

**EVENTS  
FOR...**

# **NEW GOVERNORS**

---

AGBIS offers a range of webinars and seminars designed to provide a vital introduction to governance and support the smooth, effective induction of your new governors.



## **In-person seminars for new governors**

A full day of training and networking - the perfect start for all new Governors:

October - London

February - Birmingham

April - Manchester



## **Subject specific webinars and seminars**

Choose from a broad range of events in specific areas: Finance for the Non-financial Governor, SEND for Governors, Handling Complaints, Introduction to the School Standards and many more.

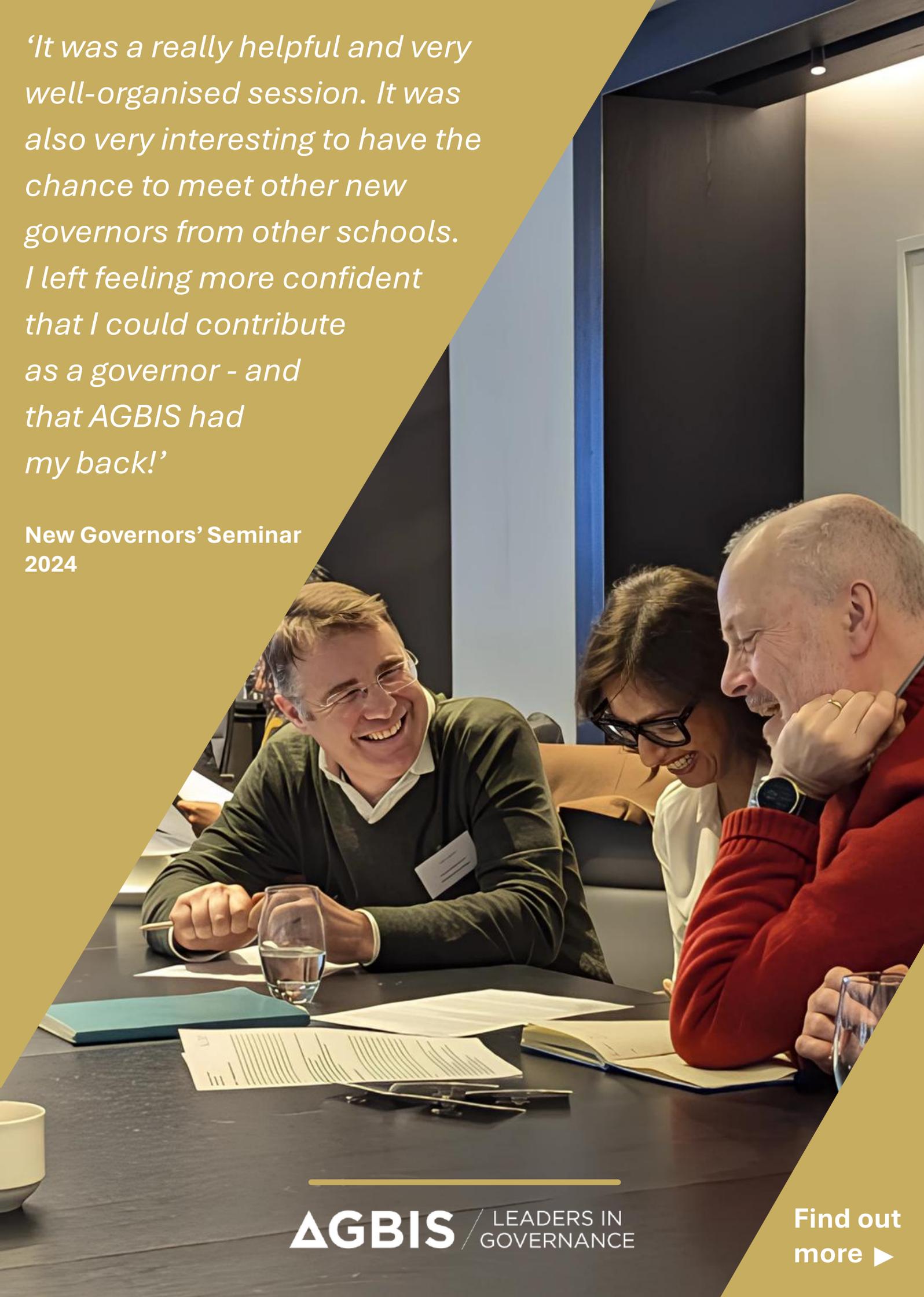


## **E-learning**

Learn at your own pace, in your own time and at your own convenience. A New Governors' Introduction and a Safeguarding course are free for governors of our member schools.

*'It was a really helpful and very well-organised session. It was also very interesting to have the chance to meet other new governors from other schools. I left feeling more confident that I could contribute as a governor - and that AGBIS had my back!'*

**New Governors' Seminar  
2024**



**EVENTS  
FOR...**

# **CHAIRS & VICE-CHAIRS**

For Chairs or Vice-chairs of Governors in independent schools, staying informed and connected is vital - AGBIS professional development and networking will empower you to lead with confidence, navigate challenges and support your board effectively.

## **CHAIRS' NETWORKING GROUP**



A relaxed, online meet-up for Chairs and Vice-chairs to share experiences in a confidential and supportive network:

- 7 October 2025
- 10 February 2026
- 10 June 2026

## **SEMINAR FOR CHAIRS & VICE-CHAIRS**



An in-person event featuring expert speakers, panel discussions and networking on 9 December 2025 in London

## **AGBIS BRIEFINGS**



Included in your membership, these briefings offer regular sector updates:

- 15 September 2025
- 3 November 2025
- 9 February 2026
- 18 May 2026
- 15 June 2026

**Find out  
more ►**



# BESPOKE TRAINING FOR YOUR GOVERNING BODY

Our bespoke training is fully customisable in both content and duration. Sessions can be delivered in-person or virtually - whether you're looking to focus on key governance issues, strategy, compliance or sector-specific developments, we'll create a session that delivers real value to your Board.

- ▶ **Interactive & discussion-based**
- ▶ **Led by sector experts**
- ▶ **Tailored to your Board's needs**
- ▶ **Practical, relevant and up-to-date**

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026

---

## 19 MARCH 2026, LONDON

On 19 March at the QEII Centre, Westminster, join us for an exciting line-up of expert speakers and opportunities to participate in interactive breakout sessions designed to spark ideas and action.

This one-day event will unite Heads, Chairs, Governors and Clerks for a collaborative day of networking and strategic planning for the future, and we hope that you will be there.

## AGBIS AWARDS

We will also be announcing the winners of this year's AGBIS Awards, celebrating excellence in governance across three categories:

- School of the Year
- Clerk of the Year
- Lifetime Achievement

Details of how to nominate are coming soon...

**AGBIS** / LEADERS IN GOVERNANCE

Clerk of the Year  
2025

Carol Gray  
The British International  
School Riyadh

Lead Sponsor

evelyn  
PARTNERS

*‘This was my first AGBIS conference,  
and I had a great experience.’*

*‘I thought the presenters were  
excellent and very inspiring.’*

*‘AGBIS were really  
impressive in their  
running of the day  
and looking after  
delegates.’*

**Annual Conference  
2025**

**AGBIS** / LEADERS IN  
GOVERNANCE



# WEBINARS & SEMINARS

Below is our events programme for 2025–2026. More events will be added throughout the year, please visit our website for the latest information and to book your place.

	EVENT	FORMAT	DATE & LOCATION
AUTUMN TERM 2025	<a href="#">Governance Professionals' Programme (GPP)</a>	Hybrid	Sept 2025 – Feb 2026 Hybrid
	<a href="#">AGBIS briefing</a>	Webinar	15 Sept, 4-5pm Online
	<a href="#">Safeguarding refresher: how to deliver a whole school safeguarding culture</a>	Webinar	16 Sept, 3-4pm Online
	<a href="#">Charity law for Governors   with HCR</a>	Webinar	22 Sept, 11am-12pm Online
	<a href="#">AGBIS/HMC Good Governance Programme: module 1: an overview of good governance   with HMC</a>	Webinar	22 Sept, 4-5.30pm Online
	<a href="#">Clerks' networking group</a>	Webinar	23 Sept, 10-11am Online
	<a href="#">AGBIS Scottish seminar: legal, political and practical insights   with SCIS and MFMac</a>	Seminar	25 Sept, 10am-1pm Edinburgh
	<a href="#">Beyond good intentions: trust, verify and lead inclusivity   with All-in Education</a>	Webinar	3 Oct, 10-11am Online
	<a href="#">New governors' seminar</a>	Seminar	6 Oct, 10am-4pm London
	<a href="#">Chairs' and Vice-chairs' networking group</a>	Webinar	7 Oct, 12-1pm Online
	<a href="#">Governing through change: the role of governors in Mergers and Acquisitions   with VWV</a>	Webinar	10 Oct, 10.30am-12pm Online
	<a href="#">Inspection readiness</a>	Webinar	13 Oct, 3-4pm Online
	<a href="#">Introduction to SEND for governors   with HCR Law</a>	Webinar	14 Oct, 11am-12pm Online
	<a href="#">AGBIS briefing</a>	Webinar	3 Nov, 4-5pm Online

AUTUMN TERM 2025 (cont.)			
EVENT	FORMAT	DATE & LOCATION	
<a href="#">Education for non-educationalists</a>	Webinar	4 Nov, 3.30-4.30pm Online	
<a href="#">AGBIS/ISBA/HMC Conference</a>	Conference	12 Nov, 9am-4.30pm London	
<a href="#">Reshaping the governance model for challenging times - part 1   with Dr John Newton</a>	Webinar	14 Nov, 11am-12.30pm Online	
<a href="#">An introduction to the Independent School Standards</a>	Seminar	17 Nov, 10am-1pm London	
<a href="#">AI in governance: session 1 - practical AI for governance   with Sapio</a>	Webinar	20 Nov, 11am-12.30pm Online	
<a href="#">Good Governance Programme - module 2: governance structures and processes   with HMC</a>	Webinar	24 Nov, 3-4.45pm Online	
<a href="#">New governors' webinar</a>	Webinar	26 Nov, 10.30am-12.30pm Online	
<a href="#">Handling complaints for governors   with Farrer &amp; Co</a>	Webinar	27 Nov, 3-4pm Online	
<a href="#">Introduction to recruitment: what governors need to know</a>	Webinar	3 Dec, 11am-12pm Online	
Chairs' and Vice-chairs' seminar	Seminar	9 Dec, 10am-3.30 London	

SPRING TERM 2026			
EVENT	FORMAT	DATE & LOCATION	
<a href="#">Good Governance Programme - module 3: roles, responsibilities and relationships   with HMC</a>	Webinar	12 Jan 3-5pm Online	
<a href="#">Pensions webinar   with First Actuarial</a>	Webinar	13 Jan 3-4pm Online	
<a href="#">Serious Incident reporting   with VWV</a>	Webinar	22 Jan 9.30am-4pm Online	
<a href="#">AI in governance series: session 2 - AI and strategic oversight for governors   with Sapio</a>	Webinar	29 Jan, 11am-12pm Online	
<a href="#">Good Governance Programme - module 4: Strategic Development Planning - Processes and Approaches   with HMC</a>	Webinar	2 Feb, 3-4.30pm Online	
<a href="#">Clerks' networking group</a>	Webinar	4 Feb, 10-11am Online	
<a href="#">Reshaping governance part 2   with Dr John Newton</a>	Webinar	6 Feb, 12-1.30pm Online	

	EVENT	FORMAT	DATE & LOCATION
SPRING TERM 2026 (cont.)	<a href="#">AGBIS briefing</a>	Webinar	9 Feb, 4-5pm Online
	<a href="#">Chairs' and Vice-chairs' networking group</a>	Webinar	10 Feb, 12-1pm Online
	<a href="#">The importance of good governance   with ISA (webinar 1 of 3)</a>	Webinar	24 Feb, 10.30am-12pm Online
	<a href="#">AI in governance: session 3 - AI for governance in practice   with Sapio</a>	Webinar	26 Feb, 11am-12pm Online
	<a href="#">Good Governance Programme - module 5: strategic development planning - topical considerations   with HMC</a>	Webinar	2 Mar 3-4.30pm Online
	<a href="#">Admissions Under Pressure: What every Governor needs to know about recruitment   with RHL Consulting</a>	Webinar	5 Mar, 2-3pm Online
	<a href="#">Finance for the non-financial governor   with HaysMac</a>	Webinar	10 Mar, 2-3pm Online
	<a href="#">AGBIS Annual Conference 2026</a>	Conference	19 Mar, 9am-6.30pm London
	<a href="#">Inclusive governor recruitment - diversifying talent and perspective   with All-in Education</a>	Webinar	25 Mar, 10-11am Online

	EVENT	FORMAT	DATE & LOCATION
SUMMER TERM 2026 (cont.)	<a href="#">Clerks' networking.group</a>	Webinar	22 Apr, 10-11am Online
	<a href="#">Chairs' and Vice-chairs' networking group</a>	Webinar	28 Apr, 10-11am Online
	<a href="#">The importance of good governance   with ISA (webinar 2 of 3).</a>	Webinar	29 Apr, 10:30am – 12pm Online
	<a href="#">AGBIS briefing</a>	Webinar	18 May, 4-5pm Online
	<a href="#">Clerks' networking.group</a>	Webinar	3 Jun, 10-11am Online
	<a href="#">Chairs' and Vice-chairs' networking.group</a>	Webinar	10 Jun, 10-11am Online
	<a href="#">AGBIS briefing</a>	Webinar	15 Jun, 4-5pm Online
	<a href="#">New governors' seminar</a>	Seminar	16 Jun, 10am-4pm London
	<a href="#">The importance of good governance   with ISA (webinar 3 of 3).</a>	Webinar	17 Jun, 10.30am-12pm Online

# AGBIS / LEADERS IN GOVERNANCE

---



01438 840730



[events@agbis.org.uk](mailto:events@agbis.org.uk)



[www.agbis.org.uk](http://www.agbis.org.uk)